## INTERESTING FROM THE MISSISSIPPI

The Naval Engagement Between the Union and Rebel Gunboats.

## Destruction of the River Levee by the Rebels.

Farms and Acres of Other Property Submerged and the Lives of the Inhabitants Endangered by the Flood,

8r. Louis, April 25, 1802. Aspecial despatch to the Missouri Democrat from Com-odre Foote's gunboat fletilla, dated the 23d inst.,

All is quiet here if we except two mortar boats re maining in position, which occasionally throw shell over at Fort Wright. The rebels have not replied to-day.

weather is fair. The flood has overrun all the plan ions and houses along the river. Great distress prevail e all they possess to have their families removed from their houses, which the water threatens to carry down the

The reason of the food can be understood by the fol

The robels have cut the loves at the Arkansas shor opposite the fort, and the fine farming lands there are covered with a lake of water for miles around. The residents are greatly exasperated at this outrage.

Our special correspondence from the Mississippi river ise sonfirms the above.—En. Herald.

### The Naval Engagement at Needham's Cut-Off.

NEAR FORT PHLLOW (WRIGHT), & MISSISSIPPI RIVER, April 13, 1862. Before Fort Wright-Transports-New ham's Cut-Off - The Revel Fleet Appears in Sight - A Feint and its Success-The Fight - The Robels Run-The Freling the Fort, do.

ainly Commodore Focts and General Pope will secure an easy victory at Fort Pillow (Wright), before which they are now arrayed, the former with a fleet of eight gun-boats, and the latter with a very considerable force, f transports from above, black with troops. My last ommunication left the naval florilla at New Madrid, os it was uncertain when it would move forward owing to the difficulties attending the procurement of time lying at New Madrid, including several of the car sured rebel boats, twelve available steamers. A remisition had been made for twenty more, and it was neertain when these could be obtained. But after my tter was closed, despatches were received announcin hat the requisite number had been impressed or char ered at St. Louis, all the up river boats being seized for the purpose as fast as they arrived in port. It was also ounced in the despatch that the most of these ve seis already under weigh, with orders to freport to Gen Pope. This most gratifying intelligence dispelled the lay), at clayen A. M., the naval flest was once more ordered to get under weigh. In precisely half an hour fter the order was issued the flagship Benton rounded to and steamed away at her lensurely pace down Pittsburg and Cairo. Behind these followed the ammunition and supply boals Great Western and Torrence, with their fleet of three Then came the mortar boats, sixteen in number, towed by the steamers W. H. B., Alps, Keystone, V. P. Wilson, Ike Hammitt and Wisconsin No. 2, in pairs; the two former with four boats between them, and each pair of the others with six. The gunboat Concatoga brought up the rear. The fleet, as it moved away down the long stretch below New Madrid, presented a most pleasing appearance.

catogs brought up the rear. The fleet, as it moved away down the long stretch below New Madrid, presented a most pleasing appearance.

At Obioaville, ten miles below, the gunboats Carondetts and St. Louis joined the fleet.

At six ofclock P. M. the fleet tied up for the night in Needham's Cut-Off, the boats lying against the island in the order they had moved.

Needham's Cut-Off is forty-five miles below New Madrid. The river at this place formerly took an immease circuit inland, forming a horsenhoe neek, about one mile across at its base, and twenty-five around. The person after whom the place is named cut a channel of the river, the old bed being nearly filled up with sand and other accretions. The general character of this tecality is shown in a diagram accompanying this folter. At about two o'clock on the following morning a fleet of rebel gunboats appeared in the river below the mooring place of our fleet, where, after discovering our proximity, they came to anchor at a safe distance. As they manifested a deposition to remain quiet until day, they were not molested.

At helf-past six A. M. the fleet of army transports.

mored that two thousand fugitives from Island No. 10 are still concessed in the woods below and in the vicinity of ipposeville, and that these transports were designed to take them away.

When this valiant flees had distanced our gunboats, an order was sent back for the balance of our fleet to get under weigh, which was obeyed with alacrity, every orew and the passengers being anxious to get as near as possible to the rebel craft and the rebel strongholds. The ammunition boats, preceded by the gunboat Conestoga, took the lead, the mortar beat fact our gunboat constitution of the property of the gunboat Conestoga, took the lead, the mortar beat being made up of boats towing coal barges and the famous floating blacksmith shop. The line was a very imposing one, comprising, with the gunboats, upwards of fifty vessels, and stretching out a distance of nearly fon miles. The day was clear and beautiful, and as we gleamed laxily along—the sluggish pace of the gunboats, behind which all other boats were compelled to remain, not admitting of much speed—winding among the bends and turns of this proverbially crecked river, the sight was one of the most beautiful imaginable. At every settlement and dwelling along the shore the people were all out to see the novelspentacle. Fraquently these people greeted the passing vesses with shouts and cheers, waving of hats, handkerchives, and conceilmes an enthusiatic individual, in default or anything better, would pull off his coat and swing that. At one settlement on the Arkansas side, the whole population, men, women and children, were out on the fiver bank. Their enthusiasm was very intense, Some shouted 'Hurrha' for Abraham Lincoln,' with a forcible emphasis on the Arkansas side, the whole population, men, women and children. Were out on the fiver banks their enthusiasm was very intense, Some shouted 'Hurrha' for Abraham Lincoln,' with a forcible emphasis on the Arkansas and do, the whole population, men, women and children. Were out on the fiver batteries. Not seated, which is a

low and wet for miles around, both north and west, which may render a co-operation of the land forces—unless after a long delay in accomplishing a wide circuit—impossible. But I am not at theirly to discuss the plane of the attack, and will satisfy myself by sending you a map of the country, showing the course of the river, the position of the deets, the logation of the atemy's works, &c. You may expect some exciting news from this direction soon, as the enemy are atrongly posted and manifest a disposition to make a determined stand here.

The works of the fort were begun early last summer, and have had a vast amount of labor expended upon them. They were completed before those at Columbus were commenced. They are situated upon what is known as the First Chickasaw itsuffs—a high bluf bank, reaching it some places an altitude of one hundred feet above low water mark. The works are somewhat similar in general character to the outer batteries at Bonelson, being sunk in the side of the bluff. There are eight batteries, mounting, in the aggregate, forty-two guns. It is reported that some of this metal has been withdrawn for use at Oprintly but of this I know nothing definite. The garrison is variously reported at from five to ten thousand men. This fort is minety five miles below New Madrid, and one hundred and seventy below Cairo. Between it and Fort Randoiph there is an interval of ten miles, and Mamphie one of seventy five miles.

In FRONT OF FORT PILLOW (WARDER), MESSESSITE RIVER, April 17, 1962.

The Operations of the Gundoat Flost—A Bost on Fire, an Narrow Escape of the Whole Piect—A New Material for Filling Shells—Deserters from the Recels—Strength of

the Levee, do. orks at this point, resulting, not unlikely, in the car are of the place and its garrison by strategy. The positry about it—which is entirely submerged by the flood of the Mississippi, which is constantly increasing in depth, rendering all approaches by land difficult—the necessities of the service, as wall as certain other ros capture of the rebel army—render it quite certain that a decisive blow will not be struck yet for several days. In the meantime the mortar boats have been placed in position, and occasionally remind the enemy of our proximity by a shell. The gunboats have been disposed in the river so as to most effectually protect the trans-ports, ammunition and ordnance boats and to guard against surprise, and two are all possessing our souls in patience—like Micawber, waiting for something to turn up. Occasionally a little inciden transpires to afford a small dagree of excitement and fur nish subject matter for Western newspaper correscondents to manufacture their daily quota of sensations items. On Tuesday evening one of the diminutive steam despatch boats that ply about the fleet took fire, while lying in the midst of the fleet of transport steamers. The crew were off of her at the time, and when the alarm was given the destruction of the whole feet, which was lying against the bank in close order, seemed most im-But the engineer of the steamer Momphis against which the craft was lying, seeing the danger, as to set her bucking, out her moorings, and jumped back upon his own vessel, with a badly burned face. The wheelhouse of the Memphis was somewhat blackened and scorched, but otherwise she escape unharmed. The

tions along the Arkansas shore, near the point behind which the enemy's works are situated. That day was occupied in getting correct ranges upon the rebel batte-ries, eighty shots being expended in this operation, to none of which the enemy deigned to reply. On Tuesday sixty shells were sent with much accuracy, worrying the garrison on the bluffs to such an extent that they

instance used round shot, while we were sending hom
the heaviest weight of shells. The powder required to
fill shells is too scarce and costly an article with them to
be wasted in any artillery practice or skirmishing. They
are equally destitute of lead. On Sanday, when our gun
boat fleet ran around the point under their guns, they
threw from their gunboats a few shells, one of which exploided close to the Benton, scattering a productor of the
marries over her deck. Leaden bullets cost too much to
be used in tilling shells.

Deserters from the rubed camp and fleet occasionally
find their way into our lines. One was taken aboard the

sail of the rice; the old bust being morty filled up with sand and other accretions. The general character of this scaling is abown in a diagram accompanying this letter.

At about two o'clock on the following morning a desi of rebelguinous spectrum in the resolution of the resolution to remain quiet until dry, they were not molested.

At half-past six A. M. the flest of army transports, composed of those vessels which had been typing at New Mastris, how in sight. He comprised the following the resolution of th

outing of this levee is the fact that one of the cuts is directly opposite the incoring of the gunboat Conestoga,
and scarcely five hundred feet distant. The intervening
space is covered with water and thin woods. The might
was perfectly clear, and the moon at a full, so that it
seems almost incredible, had proper watch been kept on
that vessel, that the work could have been accomplished
without discovery. If they permit an enemy to approach
within five hundred feet of them, and accomplish such a
feat as the cutting of a levee without being discovered,
they may expect to wake up some fine morning and find
themselves, with their ship, a capture in the enemy's
lines.

themselves, with their ship, a capture in the enemy's lines.

Although we are constantly moving farther down into Dixis, Commodore Foote manages to keep up a daily mail communication with Cairo, the captured rebel steamer De Soto and the Shingies being used for this purpose. The latter is owned by Peter Demorast, Esq., of New York.

Commodore Feote is still suffering severely from the injury to his foot recoived at Fort Poneison. The foot is badly avocalen and causes intense pain if an attempt is made to use it. The Commodore Poblic around his ship on crutches, though, since Tuesday, he has been confined to his room.

NEAR FORT PILLOW (WRIGHT), April 19, 1862. Abundant Water Power-A Watery Waste-Indiana and

Her Troops, de. Rain, rain, rain; water everywhere as far as the eye can reach, covering cornfields, filling the woods, surrounding dwellings and flooding the whole country; and still it rains and still the water rises. A flood in the Mississippi is an event of annual occurrence, yet one that invariably brings its apprehensions to residents along its shores, and destroys an incalculable amount of property. The present flood is greater than any that has swept through the valley for a number of years and, owing to the cutting of the levee on the west side of the river, will prove the most desolating and de. structive probably that ever occurred. On every hand water covers the entire face of the earth, increasing the width of the river from a mile and a half to thirty or forty miles. As we lay moored to the trees that were onee on the channel bank, but which now are in the middle of the vast expanse of water, buildings, cattle,

# THE ENGAGEMENT AT NEEDHAM'S CUT OFF.

The Positions of the Union and Rebel Fleets Before and During the First Naval Engagement in the Western Waters.



A-Union gunboats. B-Union mortar boats. C-Union transports. D-Robel gunboats. E-Robel transports.

of property floated by, showing the desolating work of the mighty torrent. The scope is a grand yet a terrible one. Attempts to picture it are utterly futile. It chailenges the descriptive powers of the ablest pen. And yet the rein descends in torrents, and the water rises higher and higher. God only knows when it will stop. In the midst of this watery chaos our fleet remains quiet, undisturbed and uninjured by the rolling, surging tide. Nothing, apparently, is doing. Everybody has ample time to see the grand sight the waters afford, and overybody wearies in the contemptation. The vocation borders on the monotonous. I imagine if one were anchored in front of the falls of Niagara, and his ayes were forbidden to wander from the broad sheet of failing water before him, the poetry of the summer trip would be lost, and the opportunity to return to the tedious routine of the counting room or effice would be auxiensly coveted. So with us. With no variety to give interest to the spectacle, the flood—in itself grand, imposing, sublime—becomes a state monotony from which the eye vainly turns for a change. Once in a while a little inside incident occurs to alid in passing away the time. One of these acceptable events has just transpired. Indiana is a great State, and Governor Morton is unquestionably a great Governor. Governor Morton is unquestionably a great Governor Governor Morton is unquestionably a great Governor of the college boy—a slight approach to the dandy, a vast amount of self-esteem and more good clothes than brains. This distinguished individual is just new taking a junn at the expense of the Hossiers. He has been deputed by the Hossier Executive above mentioned to visit the several armies in which indiana is represented, and look after the condition of the sick and wounded from that State. He rides at the State's expense upon steamboats and rail cars, seeking in all places to impressing Sheuid a foreigner come in contact with this wonderful personage, he would form the conviction at once that Indiana was the only State in the Union Governer Morton the only Govorno mighty torront. The scene is a grand yet a terrible one. Attempts to picture it are utterly futile. It chal-

# the field. Seriously, Indiana displays a very creditable degree of solicitude for the welfare of her representatives in the field; perhaps as much so as any State in the Union. But it would seem more fitting and becoming, if not more beneficial in its results, to send somebody other than a mere boy, scarcely out of his teens, to further these commendable purposes. THE BATTLE AT PITTSBURG.

General McClernand's Complimentary General Order-GENERAL FIELD ORDER-NO. 375. HEADQUALITIES, FIRST DIVISION. CAMP NEAR PHYSICHE, Tenn., April 11, 1862.

But recently the officers and soldiers of the First di-vision received the grateful thanks of their commanding General and the blessings of their countrymen for the hief part borne by them in achieving one of the most glorious and substantial triumphs that have crowned the alor of our armies. Before the bonfires that had been ighted in honor of that event had yet become dim, bere the notes of a nation's thanksgiving had died upon he ear, before the thanks of a preserved country had found expression, that event was eclipsed in splendor by lew achievements. While the ever memorable word "Donelson" was being inscribed upon your banners, and claimed its home among the chosen emblems of your valor and patriotism. Donelson and Pittsburg, brought so near together by the rapid progress of your arms. will together stand to your honor upon the page of his-

With numbers reduced by the former conflict, with the disadvantages of a recent change in organization, the forces composing the First division found themselves on Sonday morning iast, almost without warning, in the face of the enemy. That enemy had arrayed against you his bravest and best disciplined troops, drawn from Ma

his bravest and best disciplined treops, drawn from Manasas. Columbus and Fenacola, in apparently overwhelming numbers, well armed, and commanded by their ablest generals, to be led by whom, they had been taught, made them invincible.

Into amply prepared, and confident of victory, they choe their own time and place of attack, and fell furicusty upon you. Croumstances beyond the control of your commanding general brought them to your lines almost as soon as you were warned of their appreach. But you were ready, and, under the guidance of gallant officers, were instantly at the point of assault, and engaged in the desperate encounter.

The First division was overmatched in numbers, but not in determination and valor. Wherever the enemy came he was met and fought. When, during the first day, you were compelled to give way, it was only to choose a new line of battle and fight again. The changing for ince of the day did not discourage you, nor your fatigues and losses break your resolution. The advance of the enemy from different points was met by your skillful evolutions and steady ourage. You felt that a vastly amperior force was upon your yet you held his advance in constant check, and were away the day, until, after twelve hours of almost increasnt firing, you paused for the night, in line of battle, and, facing the enemy, and resting upon your arms, kept him at bay.

On the next morning, reinforced by gallant troops who had arrived during the night, and without awaiting attack, you advanced upon the enemy, and drove him attackly from point to point, until you arrived at your own encompment. Here, as on the previous day the mostery—the terrible array of the wounded and shall bearing cloquent testimony to the field, the ground was fought over many times, until you remarked in the mastery—the terrible array of the wounded and shall bearing cloquent testimony to the field, the ground was fought over many times, until you remarked in the mastery—the torrible array of the wounded and shall bearing cloquent testimony

emination of seas other, was recommended the contest and field from the field.

Thus closed another memorable chapter in the history of this unbangy and deplorable contest. Thus perion the hopes of the bad and simbitious men who have drawn so many thousands of their dended followers into unholy robellion and treason, only to be overwhelmed in ruin. Thus fell to the earth, and turned to duss and ashes, in the persons of their mest accomplished leaders, the vain boast that here and upon you the disasters of fluit run were to be re-enseted, and the records of Henry and Donelson biotted out.

Buil run were to be re-emated, and the records of Henry and Consison blotted out.

It is due to your valor and constancy, and of the gallant divisions who fought by your side, that this beant was disapointed, and another crushing blow given to this rebellion, another stately stop taken toward the vindication of your insuked flag, the security of the national unity, and the enteroning of the constitution and laws in their ancient supremacy throughout the

and.

While rejoicing with you in this triumph which your valor has achieved, and invoking in your behalf the applauses of your grateful country, your commanding General cannot refrain from recognizing with profound sorrow the sacrifices it has demanded. The gallant and the profound the profound sorrow who survive clo-General cannot refrain from recognizing with profound sorrow the sacrifices it has demanded. The gallant and honored dead, the brave sufferers who survive, eloquently remind us at what sore cost the blessings of civil government and the sacredness of the Union must be maintained. The muse of history will record it, and returne generations will keep a solema day to their bond. The General cymmanding would remind you that the present law, whereby twenty milions of dollars (or less than one dollars by the control of the control

there is still earnest, gallant and decisive work to be done. The enemy is still before you, apparently preparing for another attempt to change the waning fortunes of this robellion, and, by another struggle, to prolong the existence of this foul and treasonable coupsiracy. But the end is to come, and the men of the Northwest must do their full share of the work. If any are weary, lot them turn back: if any fear, let them fly before the fight comes on. When it does come, let the First division, and every man that wears its honors or stands in its ranks, solemnly resolve to win new and still more enduring honors in further and final victories. By order of Major General First Division.

M. Brayman, Assistant Adjutant General.

# THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Report of the Special Committee on Na tional Taxation.

A special meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held at one o'clock yesterday to receive the report from the committee appointed on the 16th instant, with in structions to prepare a memorial to Congress on taxation in conformity with the programme laid down in the report of the Boston Board of Trade to the Chamber. P Perit. Esq., eccupied the chair.

A letter from Mr. Bright, M. P.; of England, thanking the Chamber for the resolutions and address they had forwarded to him, was read.

Mayor OPDYKE, chairman of the Committee on Taxa tion, then submitted the following memorial, which the

committee had drawn up for presentation to Congress;—
To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress Assembled—
The memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York respectfully represents that the exigencies of the country demand the adoption, at an early day, of a system of taxation whereby the ordinary expenditures of the government, and the interest on its public debt, shall be provided for, and a sinking fund established, the proceeds of which shall eventually extinguish the principal of the debt.

of the government, and the interest on its public debt, shall be provided for, and a sinking fund established, the proceeds of which shall eventually extinguish the principal of the debt.

That the masses of the people are ready and desirous to contribute their quota to the ordinary and extraordinary revenues of the country, so that the burden of expenditure may be equitably distributed between the present generation and that which shall immediately succeed us. That the principles of taxation which have been developed, tried and tested in Europe during the past hundred years, have clearly demonstrated that the burdens of government should be borne by the people according to their individual ability to meet such demand.

That the current expenditures of the government during the present and coming fiscal years demand an annual public revenue of at least two hundred and fifty millions of dollars, and that probably no less a sum will be adequate to the prompt payment of such ordinary annual expenditures, the payment of the interest on the public debt, the establishment of a sinking fund, and, finally, the restoration of the public credit to such a point or condition as will enable the Treasury to negotiate on favorable terms the requisite loans of the present and future years.

That all revenue bills pending the rebellion and subseduent years, especially in the present instance, should be as brief as possible, and so simple and so easy of comprehension by the people at large that all classes may readily understand how, and in what way, and by what process they are to be made contributors to a common fund for the benefit of the whole Union.

That in view of the expenses of collecting the public revenue, the convenience of taxpayers, and a prompt realization of such income, it is requisite that the subjects or objects of taxation should be as fere was possible.

That in the selection of objects of taxation, the necessaries of life should be countribute towards the quotal process the burden fall on all classes accord

per pound. 24,000,000
From an excise or tax on tobacco of twenty-cants per pound. 20,000,000
From an excise or tax on whiskey and other

ty cents per pound...

From an excise or tax on whiskey and other liquors of twenty-five cents per gallon...

From an excise or tax on malt liquors five cents per gallon...

From a direct tax upon real and personal 25,000,000

non production of four minors or once, which will stift further contribute, in future years, to the proposed revenue from this source.

That the proposed excise or tax upon sobsect, as an arricle of laxury, will yield this year the wire named and that from the possible flates, no foreign competition need be feared in their production of the solono-operation grates, no foreign competition need be feared in their production of this important staple, now so largely used abrond, and contributing materially to the wealth of this nation.

That the excise or tax on whiskey and other domestic liquors, while it is less than a firth of the tax served on such products in other countries, will yield a permanent revenue of at least twenty-five millions of solars, and prospectively nearly double that sum.

Your memorialists believe that such a tax will have a highly conservative influence upon the community at large, by reducing intemperance, which is the principal source of the fund.

Your memorialists arge that an excise of five cents per gallon on mait liquors will scarcely be felt by the tax payer; and that, as articles of lexury, they should be made to contribute a large share towards the prolic fevence.

Your memorialists further represent, that these faxes,

Your memorialists further represent, that these taxes,

Your memoralists respectfully represent, that, in their inton, numerous advantages would arise to the public asury from the adoption of the plan now suggested by ar remorrishipts, viz:—

1. The expenses of the collection of the public revenue, der a new and entirely untried system, and estimated the act of Congress, approved angust 5, 1861, sects 53, at fifteen per cent, would be reduced to less than one per cent by the cotemporary imposition of licenses d stamps.

three per cent by the cotemporary imposition of loss than three per cent by the cotemporary imposition of loss can always.

If The appointment of a large number of new office holders, some twenty thousand in number, as collecters of special rovenue, would be obviated, as well as the risks which would perial to the collection and payment into the treasury of such large sums by new and untried officials; as the rovenue now contemplated by the measures proposed, may be almost entirely collected by post masters and ofhers already holding office, who have proved their idelity, and are under beads for the shifted performance of their trusts.

III. Renewed confidences in the integrity, power and resources of this government would be felt, abroad and at home—a feeling which would do much towards a more speedy restoration of peace than would otherwise occur.

IV. An income tax, already provided for by law, and already odious to the people before its operation has been felt, may be thus avoided. Buch is the unspopularity of this tax where tried, that one of the abiest statemen of the age has said—"Such a tax ought on no account to form part of the ordinary revenue of the State, but should cease with the necessity which could alone mustify its adoption; inasmuch as, besides all the other objections to which it is inable, its inabilational character is such as must always render it edious, however triffing may be the amount abstracted. The facility with which it is collected offers a constant temptation to extravagance on the part of government, removes the most important check upon expenditure, and dispenses with the necessity of seeking for an equality between income and expenditure in a conomy."

V. That the true and equitable sources of taxation and

of seeking for an equality between income and expenditure in seconomy."

V. That the true and equitable sources of taxation and public revonue will be reached by the schedule now suggested, because, first, each man will contribute in the ratio of his individual and family expenditure (and no more); and, secondly, those who apend hundreds of millions of dollars annually, in what may be termed the luxuries and extravagances of life (viz. liquora, tobacco, segars, &c.), will be compelled to contribute more largely towards, the public revenue than those whose incomes and expenditures are on a limited scale.

Your memorialists beg leave to recommend to your consideration a report made to the Boston Board of Trade, under date of April 10, 1861, which report your memorialists conceive is based upon sound principles of finance, and is in accordance with the views now preed by your memorialists.

Philadelphia.

The Mayor's suggestion was adopted, and the following gentlemen were appointed such committee — Mears.

A. C. Richards, E. Nyo and W. E. Dodge.

The CHAIFMAN announced that General Anderson and others of the heroes of Fort Sumer would attend the next meeting of the Chamber, to receive the medal to be presented to them — Adjourned.

### PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS. THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, April 25, 1862.

Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio, presented resolutions from the Legislature of Ohio concerning the rebel prisoners at Columbus, Ohio, saying that the loyal feelings of the people of Ohio had been outraged by the fact that the robel prisoners at Camp Chase were allowed to ratain their slaves by Colonel Moody, thus practically es-Ohio, and solemnly protesting against this outrage upon the loyalty of the reople of Ohio.

The resolutions were accompanied by a note from Gov Tod, saying that Col Moody did not permit it, but that the negroes had been sent there as prisoners, and that Col. Moody was obliged to take care of them

Mr. Sherman said the fact was, the negroes were sent attached to Col. Moody or the Governor of Obio for this,

attached to Col. Moody or the Governor of Obio for this, Major Jones, the Inspector at Camp Charc, reported matters all quiet there.

Mr. Grimss, (rep.) of lowa, asked if any steps had been taken to free these negroes, as he supposed them to be free by the act of last summer, being captured in the service of the enemy.

Mr. Swirman replied that no steps had been taken that he knew of. The negroes, he believed, were still there. Mr. Wilson, (rep.) of Mass, raid, that he should call up the matter on Monday. He thought some action ought to be had on the subject.

Mr. Themetel, (rep.) of Ill., presented a petition for the construction of a ship canal to connect take Michigan with the Mississippi river.

California Land Titles.

Mr. Lathan, (opp.) of Cal., introduced a bill in reference to certain land titles in the State of California. Referred.

reme to certain had titles in the State of California. Referred.

A NEW CONTISCATION BILL.

Mr. COWAN, (rsp.) of Pa., introduced a bill to amend the act of April 30, 1790. He said he should move to refer this bill and all other bills concerning the punishment of rabels and the confiscation of their property to a select committee of five.

The Chair suggested that if the motion was meant to include the Confiscation bill now before the Senate, it would be taken up.

The other by the selection of the property to a select committee of five.

The thin to make it when the bill should be taken up.

The bill for a line of steamships from San Francisco to Shanghae was taken up.

Mr. Piecennen, (rep.) of Mc., said the bill made the government pay \$500,000 a year to establish a line of steamships where there were no postages to collect, and but little commerce, when we need all the money we can get. We abandoned this very yeaten on the Atlantic coast when the Treasury was tuil.

After inviter direction the bill was paged, by year 26, nays 16.

25, mays 16.

Mr. Wark, (rep.) of Ohio, introduced a bill concerning private actions against public officers. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

EXECUTIVE ASSERT.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, of Mars., the Senale then

#### House of Representatives. WASHINGTON, April 25, 1862.

TAR VALLANDICHAN AND WARR DEFECULT. When the House adjourned yesterday, the resolution of Mr. Hutchine was pending to censure Mr. Vallandigham for words spoken in debate against Senator Wade, &c. The SPRARMR stated that this was a question of priviege, on which Mr. Vallandigham had reised a point o

The rule referred to by Mr. Vallandighom was read. I

If a memory we exceed to order for words spaced in de-bate, the person estiling aim to order shall repeat the word excepted to, and they shall be taken down in withing at the Chris's table, and no member shall be held to answer, or is subject to the consure of the House for words spoken in de-bate, if any other member has spoken or debug business in servened after the words spoken and before exception in them shall have been taken.

here shall have been taken.

The Spraken also directed the following to be rea-

The SPEARM also directed the following to be read from the Manual:

Discreerly words spoken in committee must be written down as in the House; but the connection can only report them to the House for animadversion.

The SPEARM, under all the circumstances, anstained Mr. Vallandigham's point of order, and thus was disposed of the question of privilege.

BONNESS FOR WHOMEN AND BRIDES OF VOLKNERS.

The House considered for a short time, but came to no conclusion on, the bill appropriating six millions of collars in payment of the houstless to the widows and legal heira of such voluntees, called into service under the act of July last as have died or may die, been killed or may be killed.

DRAYS ON 1868 BRIOST ON THE CONTRACT INVESTIGATION REATE ON THE REPORT OF THE CONCRACT INVESTIGATION

The House then took up the report of the Select Com-

wions.
Mr. Dawns, (rep.) of Mass., said that last Mondes. Mr. Daws. (rep.) of Mass., said that has handed when the committee were about quiter; and as the supposed, faithfully, attending to their dirty in New York a premoditated, and, as would appear, a premomeried, a facilities was made upon their personal character and hiterity. This was the account attack of the kind durin their absence. In the course of his removis he said that deneral Fremon had charged that the countries was the facilities of the countries. and referred to receive other evidence and that he (deneral Frences,) would one; evidence to sustain these changes. He (its Dawes) new injuried of an member of the Committee on the Conduct of the War whether deneral Frement had offered any evidence to sustain

these charges;
Mr. Crant. (rep.) of N. Y., replied that nothing had been kid before that committee excepting the statement of General Present humself.
Mr. Dawss and that the second charge was of a ch a

of General Present himself.

Mr. Dawes and that the second charge was of a character that no man having a proper respect for himself could use it by the officed. The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Stevens) last Monday remarked that the committee had committed more from the that the man wanded having committee expending public money and bringing disgrace on the country. He (Mr. Dawes) had given the gentleman (Mr. Stevens) notice that it was a wanded having committee that the first seed to notice these remarks; but the gentleman (Mr. Stevens, was absent.

Mr. Culvax, (rep.) of ind 'explained, by request of Mr. Stevens that the latter had an engagement with some gentlemen from Pennsylvania, who were going to leave in the afternoon cars, but he (Mr. Stevens) would endeavor to be in the House before the adjournment.

Mr. Dawes, during his elaborate defence of the committee, said they were charged with the duly of examining into contracts and not to injure individuals. They give to be a to the condense of the committee, said they were charged with the duly of examining into contracts and not to injure individuals. They give to bear at this late day that he (Mr. Dawes) was counted among them. He earnestiy condenned the efforts to undermine the condense of the House and country in the committee. The motives which growpish the attack on Monday were known. The committee in their early progress had the support of the gentleman from Panneylvania.

committee threw themselves between the Transmy and Simon Stowers, the brother of the gentleman, and who was interested in the purchase and sale of 5,000 arms for \$50,000, that they encountered the opposition of the gentleman from Pounsylvania, which committee. He could not overlook the fact of the connection with others in this matter. He understood that a distinguished actimotionary of the government was by at that time, acting in this Homes as generalisatino, and had congratulated Mr. Stoyens on his signal success over the committee during their absence. The came exfunctionary also conferred with other gentlemen from Pounsylvania—gentlemen who had protested against taking Mr. Lameron into the Cabinet, and yet were brought before Mr. Lincoln on their, kness and made to retreat all they said.

Mr. McKnight, (rep.) of Pa., remarked that as the gentleman had not particularized the members of the delegation, be (Mr. McKnight was one of them who pretested against taking Mr. Cameron into the Cabinet. He (Mr. McKnight) had never withdrawn or qualified that protest.

Mr. Moorgrap, (rep.) of Pa., said he recommended the

deted against taxing Mr. Cameron into the Camero. Inc.
Mr. McKnight) had never withdrawn or qualified that protest.

Mr. Moorsmap, (rep.) of Pa., said he recommended the approintment of Mr. Cameron, and he stood by it. He believed it was a good appointment for Foansylvania (Laughter).

Mr. Dawes hour having expired, it was proposed that his time should be extended, but Mr. Roscoe Conkling objected, saying he was tired of running comments end attacks which nobody had made.

Mr. Krilly (rep.) of Pa., said, in the language of Shakspeare, "A good name to man or woman is the jewel of the soul." In Ponnsylvania slander was pussished by a reclamation on the estate of the slanderer, or imprisonment. He had seen the itbeliebeller in the penitontiary with the burglar and horse thief. If the remark about recommending Mr. Cameron was applies to him [Mr. Cameron) did not represent his State by his vote or influence. We honored Mr. Cameron was a spiles to him [Mr. Cameron did not represent his State by his vote or influence. We honored Mr. Cameron was a tateman their lines ran in opposite directions. It was becauge the committee were not acting in a spirit of camior and justice that he herestofore presented elector from a valued constituent, Alexander Cumming in refutation of a serious charge against him, growing out of a mistake of the printer, which the committee, as individuals, refused to correct. His complain was not that investigation was made, but that the reposit was of such a character that Congress shrunk from taking action on its statements. Mr. Kolly referred to Mr. Cummings' purchases, showing the economy he had exercised in the premises.

Mr. Strukt, (opp.) of N. J., of the Committee, asid the pantaloens were not distributed, and the hats were too small. (Laughter.)

Mr. Krilly said he would go to the commissary's office

pantaloens we're not distributed, and the hats were too small. (Laughter.)

Mr. Kerly said he would go to the commissary's offlow with the gentleman, and make a common report.

Mr. Sreau said he would accept the proposition.

Mr. Washerman, (rep.) of Ill, fasked his colleague on the committee (Mr. Steele) to include the hundres and fifty begs of coffee.

Mr. Sreaus said the bags of coffee were in the possession of the Commissary, and had not been distributed, for the reason that they were not fit to use. (Laughter.)

ceived.

Mr. Morrisan inquired what reason the gentleman had for supposing such persons had attended the alleged combination.

for supposing such persons had attended the sileged combination.

Mr. Dawes would answer the gentleman (Mr. Morehead; in the language of the poet:—

I know not, I care not if guilt's in that heart,

I know that I love thee, whatever thou art.

Mr. Dawes, during his remarks, said that the giving of horse contracts involving \$400,000 was an easy way of recencing old political differences. In conclusion he said the republican party was not the only one participating in the plunder; but it must, notwithstanding not forth every effort to stop the dishonest drain upon the national Treasury.

Mr. Stream desired to reply to Mr. Dawes, but was not prepared to do so now, wishing first to read the gentleman's remarks, as it was beyond his power to be present when they were made.

Further consideration of the subject was postponed until Monday, to which time the House adjourned.

### Captures by the United States Gunboat Herenles.

BALTIMORS, April 25, 1862. The United States gunboat Bercules, Capt. Dungan, he arrived here with another prize and two important pet band trade and in passing mails and despatches between was captured at his house at Annemessex, Somerest county, Md., where he was found concealed in a loft, and only serrendered when the captain of the Hercules threa tened to shoot him. The government agents have been tooking for this man since last fall. He is wealthy, and has been a most unscrupulous secassionist. His name is withheld for the present.

co river and captured the schooser Algonquin, hailing from Annemessex, which had evidently landed a cargo in iecessia, which was no doubt taken from Baltin When the Hercules made her appearance the crew of the Algonquin tried to make off with the vessel; but they finally abandoned her and escaped to the shore. Some med matter was found on board. The prisoners captured were sent to Fort McHenry.

Lake Champlain Free from Ice.

Lake Champlain is free from ice. The steamers U States, Captain Anderson, and America, Captain Flagg, will commence their regular trips, leaving Whitehall and Rouse's Point on Monday next, in connection with the New York, Montreal and Ogdensburg trains. These bonts have been refitted and put in complete order for business.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.
PHILADELPHIA STOCK PHILADELPHIA, April 25, 1862. Flour firm at \$5 12½ for superfine. Wheat firm at \$5 12½ for superfine. Wheat firm appears sylvania red. \$1 25; white, \$1 30 a \$1 40. Corn firm a 54c. Salt bams, 5½c.; sides, 5½c. Whiskey firm at 24c.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL

FRIDAY, April 25-6 P. M.

Money begomes every day more of a drug. Several of the banks are lending at 5 a 6 per cent on call after ten to thirty days notice, thus indicating their belief that money will remain very cheap for some time to come. The deposits at the Sub-Treasury to-day were \$1,380,000; the aggregate at present is thus raised to about \$28,250,000. We hear of sales of paper at 5 a 6; first class names are much inquired for. Exchange is firmer; sterling has sold at 11254

and the regular rate is 1121/4; commercial bills 1113% a 1123%. Francs, 5.023% a 5.073%. Gold dedined this morning to 10134, but stiffened up afterward. The foreign bankers seem to think that, as we are only just beginning to feel in the money market the effect of the expansion of paper money by government, the gold market will soon begin to feel the same influence. It is contrary alike to logic and experience that gold should remain at a nominal premium, while the government is creating paper money at the rate of several millions a day; and it is equally contrary to experience that the operations of speculators should avail to counterset the operation of a law of trade. There must come a time, one would imagine, when the very accessities of the sellers of gold would assist the advance in the price of the precious metal. This is the belief of all who are engaged in the banking or bullion business; but there is some difference of opinion with regard to the period at which the market is expected to move. The stock market opened dull this morning, and

prices of the leading speculative shares fell off 1/4 a %. After the first board there was a moderate rally, and prices were maintained at the reaction till the adjournment in the afternoon. Governments fell off 34, apparently in consequence of an over supply from the banks. Toledo was sold down in the morning to 40, and was hammered by the bears with more than usual pertinacity. Ob the appearance in the market, however, of one or two cash purchasers who were willing to take all they could get at 40 a 3/4 a 3/4, the price speedily rallied, and rose steadily till it closed in the after noon at 41% bid. This stock has seemingly touched bottom. At 41 it is a safe investment for income Central and Erie were steady all day at the price of yesterday afternoon. As a general rule, the Western shares were a shade lower the to-day, especially Rock Island and Illinois. But